

**From:** [Walker, Tina \(DSHS\)](#)  
**To:** [Moore, Gary](#)  
**Subject:** FW: DSHS Visit to CES Environmental Services Site  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 06, 2015 2:01:12 PM

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**From:** Walker, Tina (DSHS)

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 06, 2015 2:00 PM

**To:** Rangel, Diana (DSHS); Ellerbee, Tom (DSHS); Rivera, David (DSHS); Morse, Laura (DSHS); Duty, Josh (DSHS); Bojes, Heidi (DSHS); Pettigrew, George@epamail.epa.gov; Lyke, Jennifer@epa.gov; moore.gary@epa.gov; Little, Bill@epamail.epa.gov; terry.andrews@tceq.texas.gov; Brenda Basile; rodney.bryant@tceq.texas.gov

**Subject:** DSHS Visit to CES Environmental Services Site

Just wanted to send an update regarding the Texas Department of State Health Services' (DSHS), Health Assessment and Consultation Program's visit with residents living near the CES Environmental Services site in Houston. This visit was a follow-up to community outreach that was conducted by DSHS and EPA in November 2014.

During the week of September 29 – October 2, 2015, DSHS spoke with residents in 138 homes in order to address any questions and/or health concerns they may have about the status of the site. The majority of those we spoke to stated that since the chemical contamination has been removed from the site, the odors they previously complained about have dissipated. Occasionally they will still smell odors coming from the site but not nearly at the levels they were experiencing last year and at the beginning of this year. For those residents that were concerned regarding potential migration of contamination off-site, DSHS informed them that based on our preliminary evaluation of the available environmental sampling data concentration of contaminants are not present at levels that would immediately cause concern.

Many residents stated that they really appreciated DSHS coming out and speaking with them and the information we provided was very reassuring. Fortunately, we did not hear anything regarding potential buyouts or compensation from the PRP's as we suspected we would.

DSHS met with representatives from the Texas Organizing Project (TOP), which represents low income communities across Texas. TOP has been working with representatives from the community surrounding the CES property. TOP members stated they would like to see some type of educational material produced that would let residents know what chemicals were identified at the CES site. In response to this request, DSHS will be putting together a factsheet that will explain what was on-site and, if any potential health effects could be associated with those chemicals identified. We hope this will enable us to reach a broader audience and to help reassure residents that even though the strong odors may have been a quality of life issue, we don't believe anything migrated into the neighborhoods which would have lasting health effects.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments regarding our community outreach please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Tina Walker

Health Educator

Health Assessment and Toxicology Program

Department of State Health Services

512-776-2932